

May 2004

The Oscillator

The Club...wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective and established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

Est: 1978

KK7TN Paragraphs Don Stettler KK7TN

OTVARC SPOTLIGHT:

- Club Meeting - May 12
- Lunch Bunch - May 22
- Board Meeting - May 26
- Club Meeting - June 9
- SEA-PAC - June 18 - 20
- Board Meeting - June 23
- Field Day - June 26-27
- Fifth Wednesday Contest - June 30
- Club Meeting - July 14
- Board Meeting - July 28
- Club Meeting - August 11

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I have been enthralled with packet radio ever since I was first introduced to it at a Washington County ARES meeting about 10 years ago.

Paul Schaff, W7BBG, may not even remember but he first demonstrated packet radio to me. It was at a Washington County ARES meeting way back when the EOC was in the basement of the old part Washington County Court House. As I recall he demonstrated connecting to a node, listing messages, reading a message, and using the call book. That is all it took - I was hooked. To me being able to communicate with hams anywhere in the world using a computer, a TNC,

and a 2-meter radio is remarkable. Equally remarkable is that hams around the world have assembled and operate packet nodes with their own resources to make this all possible.

Packet radio is emphasized by the Washington County ARES because it can transmit data quickly and accurately. A core group is working hard to assemble a packet network second to none, primarily for emergency communications. I have made an effort to expand my capabilities by assembling a portable packet station. This would allow me to go to say, a hospital, and assist with communications needed there. I managed get this done after I was given a very old laptop computer.

Because the computer is so old I must use DOS software rather than Windows software I am accustomed to using in my shack. This not only frustrates me but also concerns me because if there would be an emergency I would be less than totally effective using an unfamiliar computer and software. So when I found out that my son-in-law had purchased the 16 desktop computers at his work that were being replaced I asked him if I could have one. Although not small like a laptop computer, it would be movable if the need arose.

It turned out to be quite a challenge for me to
See PARAGRAPHS, P 5

THE PROGRAM - Wednesday, May 12th

We meet Wednesday, May 12th at 7:00 pm at Beaverton Elks' Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton.

This month we highlight the #1 event we sponsor each year: SEA-PAC. Al Berg, Will Sheffield, and JD Fort will draw our attention to

the event, volunteer opportunities, and awards.

Why not come early and enjoy dinner at the Elks' Cafeteria line? When you attend club meetings you are "connected."

TRAVELERS' CAMPOUT

May TRAVELERS' campout will be at Sunnyside County Park at Foster Lake, May 14 - 16 near the town of Sweethome. Tom and Barb Bailey will be the wagonmasters. For details contact them via e-mail at reno78@gte.net or ka7nam@arri.net or call them at 503.538.2266.

Directions: Go I-5 south to Albany, take highway 20 through Sweethome. In a few miles watch for signs Quartzville Road (Green Peter, Sunnyside Park, or Foster reservoirs). Turn left and follow the road to Sunnyside Park about 1 mile on the right.

Sunnyside park features a boat ramp, fishing, and a country woodsy atmosphere. The sites have water and electric hookups and there is a dump station.

HAMFests

May 8, 2004: Western Washington Convention
Stanwood-Camano ARC
Dave Huppert, KA7FDC
1864 South Edgewood Drive
Camano Island, WA 98282
Phone: 360.387.6123
Email: huppert@whidbey.net

June 19-20, 2004: Seaside, OR SEA-PAC, NW Div Convention
<http://www.seapac.org>
Will Sheffield, N7THL
PO Box 25466
Portland, OR 97298-0466
Phone: 503.642.7314
Email: n7thl@juno.com

July 16 - 18, 2004 Pacific NW DX Convention
<http://www.wwdxc.org>
Joe Gregory, W7QN
509 North 71st Street
Seattle, WA 98103
Phone: 206-784-1089
Email: w7qn@msn.com

July 24, 2004 Coos County Radio Club
<http://www.coosradioclub.org>
Paul Andersen, K7AIA
PO Box 3009
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone: 541-888-2050
Email: k7aia@arri.net

ARMED FORCES DAY - SPECIAL EVENT STATION

May 15, 2004 is ARMED FORCES DAY and LIVING HISTORY DAY at Camp Withycomb, near Clackamas. A SPECIAL EVENT STATION will be on the air, sponsored by NorthWest Military Radio Enthusiasts, The Military Vehicle Collectors Club of Oregon and various re-enactor groups. They have been doing this for events such as this for the last 5 years or so. Want to see running vintage "Green Gear" Squad and tactical VHF, HF Packsets, HF Portable, vehicular, ratt, will be running. Some even dress the part.

You can be involved, too! They would love to have hams and interested parties to come and operate and view the displays. They will make contacts all day Sat and have QSL cards and certificates for current and past military. Want to know more? Christopher, K6FIB, 503.315.8209. The web site is at <http://www.exchangenet.net/nwmre>

VE REPORT, Carl WS7L

Our next session will be during SEA-PAC on June 19, 9:00 am, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church (across from Convention Center).

Registration must be received by May 15th. Confirmation will be sent to registered participants.

You will need a check or money order for the \$12 testing fee made out to ARRL VEC. Call me at 503.629.5796. or email to ws7l@arri.net.

Carl WS7L

LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday,
May 22, 2004 at 1:30 p.m.
La Fogata Mexican Restaurant
3905 SW 117th Avenue
Beaverton, Oregon

Questions or comments
Julie Landers KD7GQW
503.646.1546

If you have a spot you would like to have Lunch Bunch visit, please let me know.

Club Events

May 4: SEA-PAC Board (7 pm)

May 12: Club Meeting (7 pm)

May 18: SEA-PAC Board (7 pm)

May 22: Lunch Bunch (1:30)

May 26: Board Meeting (7 pm)

June 1: SEA-PAC Board (7 pm)

June 9: Club Meeting (7 pm)

June 18 - 20: SEA-PAC

June 23: Board Meeting (7 pm)

June 25 - 26: FIELD DAY

June 30: Fifth Wednesday Contest (8 pm)

SEA*PAC

A Little Bit of Something for Everybody
by Will Sheffield N7THL

I would like to remind everybody that on June 18th, 19th and 20th of 2004, there is going to be a Ham Convention at Seaside, OR. Come one, Come all.

This event will start out with a workshop on Friday afternoon (12:30 – 5:00PM) called “Slopers and Sloper Arrays for the Low Bands.” This workshop is being presented by Rudy Severns N6LF. The workshop is limited to 100 registrants. If you are interested and have not registered yet, you may do so by sending in your registration form for the SEA*PAC Hamvention and include the necessary monies to cover your entrance fee. If you do not have a registration form, please go to the WEB SITE www.seapac.org and download a copy of the registration form.

SEA*PAC also offers a variety of seminars and forums on technical and regulatory matters. Become informed in an up-close and personal atmosphere with the knowledgeable people in our hobby. Please check out the WEB SITE www.seapac.org to see what is available for you to take part in.

As always, the RAGS Country Store will be available for you to display your one or two rigs that you might want to get rid of or to test a rig that you have just bought from someone else. The RAGS Country Store is brought to you by Gene Mielke KA7JNU. If you need to contact Gene, call 541-386-2041 or E-mail at geneandkaren@gorge.net.

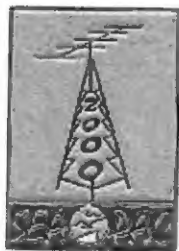
On Saturday evening, we will have a Banquet Program limited to approximately 300 people. The main speaker for the program will be Bill Pasternak WA6ITF, co-founder and managing editor of the all-volunteer **Amateur Radio Newsline** bulletin service and he also created the annual “**ARNewsline Young Ham of the Year Award**” program that honors the accomplishment's of a radio amateur 18 years of age or younger.

Don't forget about the “**Hangout for Bored Spouses**” Hospitality Suite, the luncheon for the **Young Ladies Radio League** and **Quarter Century Wireless Association**.

If you are looking to upgrade or get your amateur radio license for the first time, we will have a “**VE Testing**” session on Saturday morning at 9:00AM. Please check the WEBSITE for what you may need to bring with you, www.seapac.org.

Contacts:

Al Berg w7sic@pocketmail.com Exhibitors, Advertising and Banquet
Will Sheffield n7thl@arri.net Registration
J.D. Fort k7jdf@arri.net General Information



FIELD DAY IN VERNONIA, JD Fort, K7JDF

Field Day 2004 for The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is teetering on the edge! The edge of Columbia County Oregon, that is. Andersen Park in Downtown Vernonia, is just north of the Washington-Columbia County line and about 30 miles northwest of Hillsboro on Highway 47. It is the site for our annual Field Day event, the last full weekend of June. It is a wonderful setting bordered by the confluences of Rock Creek and the Nehalem River.

The park is only a few blocks away from downtown Vernonia, at the end of Oregon's newest State Park, Banks-Vernonia Linear. It's the perfect place to take a short hike or hop on your bicycle for a little exploring. Arrangements are finalized and we'll see OTVARC Field Dayers setting up camp at the east end of this popular site. VHF/UHF enthusiasts may find contesting interesting this year as the elevation of the site is 400 feet higher than last year's Field Day at Hillsboro's Shute Park.

This year full hookup camp sites are no-host and available for \$16.00 per night. Tent camping is \$10.00 per night. OTVARC will pick up the tab for one night of tent camping or RV dry camping near the operating area on the east end of the park. Spaces, however, are being reserved beginning Friday night. This fee will allow us use of a very nice public shower facility for those who feel the need for a refreshing break in order to make those late night QSO's! Please let me know as soon as possible if you plan to attend so we can get an accurate head count for the weekend.

Plans this year are to again gather for an evening meal, under the "Silver Top", hosted by The Travelers' on Saturday evening. We will likely operate as 2-Alpha Oregon, meaning two transmitters in simultaneous use. There will be a Get On The Air (GOTA) station set up where Novices, Technicians or generally inactive hams may operate under their existing operating privileges, or under the direction of the W7OTV Control Operator.

As always, we are in need of set up help and operators beginning Saturday Morning at 7 am through 2 pm Sunday afternoon. Official operating time period is 1800 UTC Saturday, June 26th (11:00 am PDT) through 2100 UTC (2:00 pm PDT) Sunday June 27th. We'll need a dozen or so to help with erection of the VHF/UHF site alone. Again this year we hope to have enough people on hand to staff an information table, which counts for bonus Field Day points.

I'll have further details and directions in the June Oscillator and at the June 9th Club Meeting. For now feel free to contact me (k7jdf@arrl.net or afternoons on 146.960) to volunteer for setup and or a three-hour operating shift.

Make plans to join us and see you on the radio!

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Happy May Birthday

- | | |
|----|------------------------|
| 1 | Don Branda N7DDK |
| 5 | Jim Graffy AE7W |
| 6 | George Bates K7GWB |
| 8 | Kevin Bersch KE7VIN |
| | Robbin Heath KD7MRU |
| 10 | Jeff Mathia KF6CFX |
| | Rex Smith KD7VDH |
| 14 | Barb Bailey KA7WTF |
| 15 | Robert Meyers KA7UMR |
| 18 | Wally Boleen KC7TB |
| 19 | Jim Shires KD7LDR |
| 23 | Kevin Curry KA7KYQ |
| | Patricia Rickman N7UUD |
| 24 | Stephen Coan KA7MOW |
| 26 | Willy Lund KC7ICQ |
| | Richard Morgan KD7GIE |
| | Sue Dauntless KB7RHH |
| 28 | Barry Carlson W7BLC |

FIELD DAY URLS TO CHECK OUT

Anderson Park, Vernonia, Oregon:

www.vernonia-or.gov/vernonia_park_anderson.htm

Field Day 2004 Rules:

www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2004/rules-fd-2004.html

FIELD DAY
June 26 - 27, 2004

2004 Oregon QSO Party - May 8

May 8th is the 2004 Oregon QSO Party where club members are encouraged to work as many Oregon stations and counties as possible. Join in the fun from 1400 UTC 8 May to 0200 UTC 9 May 2004 (local: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm PDT Saturday).

The object is for Oregon stations work everyone, while non-Oregon stations work us. The exchange for Oregon stations is a QSO number and county. Others issue a QSO number and state, province, or country.

The Oregon QSO Party takes place on 160 through 2 meters, no repeaters, WARC bands or cross-mode contacts. It is suggested that we work 40 kHz up on CW, 50 kHz up on SSB, e.g. 3850, 7250, 14250, 21350 and 28450.

Scoring is easy, 1 point per SSB QSO; 2 points per CW QSO. Stations may be worked once per band and mode. Mobile stations may be worked again as they enter new counties. Contacts with/by stations located on the border of two counties count as two QSOs; 3 counties, 3 QSOs, etc. Non-Oregon stations multiply QSO points by Oregon counties worked on each mode (maximum 72). Oregon stations multiply QSO points by number of Oregon counties plus states, provinces, DXCC countries.

One extra multiplier for each 8 QSOs in the same Oregon county. 100 bonus points for working special club station K7O. A summary scoring sheet is available on the CODXC.org web site.

Yes, there is an award and prize list. One pound of the finest Tillamook Cheddar to the highest scoring station outside Oregon, ½ pound to the runner-up.

A certificate will be awarded to the top ten Oregon fixed and top five mobile stations, the top Oregon county line station, and the highest score (reporting at least 10 Oregon contacts) in each state, province and country.

Submit your log containing times in UTC, call of station worked, QSO number, state, province Oregon county, band, and mode. Circle new multipliers worked. Oregon mobiles must indicate county changes in their log. Stations with more than 100 QSOs must submit a dupe sheet or an electronic log. Any plain text electronic logging program output file is acceptable. A summary sheet must be submitted with every log. Send logs by June 10, 2004 to Oregon QSO Party, c/o K4XU, 61255 Ferguson Rd, Bend, OR 97702.

Computer logs go to k4xu@arri.net. Oregon map, county sign-up sheet, rules, files for use with CT and TR logging programs, entry form summary sheet in .pdf and text formats are all available on the CODXC Web site at www.codxc.org.

PARAGRAPHS, from Page 1

get a computer going. The hard drives had been reformatted to remove all programs and data they had contained. The first monitor I tried didn't work. The keyboard I had selected didn't work.

Finally I got Windows installed but then I learned that the computer's floppy drive was missing. I am sure you are getting the idea but I finally did get the job done. With Windows installed and a floppy drive I was finally able to load the packet software. The acid test would be to hook up the radio/antenna and TNC to the computer and see if I could connect with a node. Only another ham would understand the elation I felt when I pressed enter to the connect command and then having, "Connected to Cedar" come back to me.

I write this for a couple of reasons. One is that I think my story shows the importance of demonstrating ham radio modes to less experienced hams. Another is to promote packet radio as an interesting mode. And finally, I couldn't think of anything else to write about.

Enjoy the sunshine.

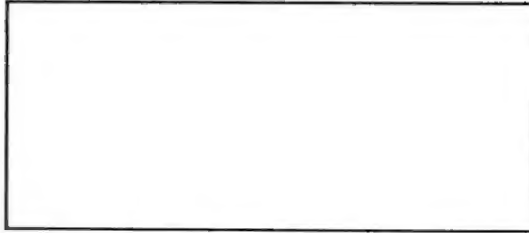
73

Don



Do you know of a business that would benefit from advertising in THE OSCILLATOR? If so, let the editor know.
Rates and packages available on request.

CLUB MEETING MAY 12TH



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Web: WWW.OTVARC.ORG
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Repeaters: 146.96 MHz
440.350 MHz (127.3)
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**Oregon Tualatin Valley
Amateur Radio Club**



CLUB INFORMATION

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.

Membership dues are \$16/year; Family member(s) of full members at same address \$21/household; Full Time students and members of two years or more at age 70 or older (Life Members) are dues free. See Club Treasurer about purchase of life membership prior to age 70. If you wish to join during the year, dues are pro-rated.

Membership applications may be found on the Club Website or on request from the Treasurer.

The OSCILLATOR is published Monthly for members. The deadline for the June issue is Tuesday, May 25th.

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